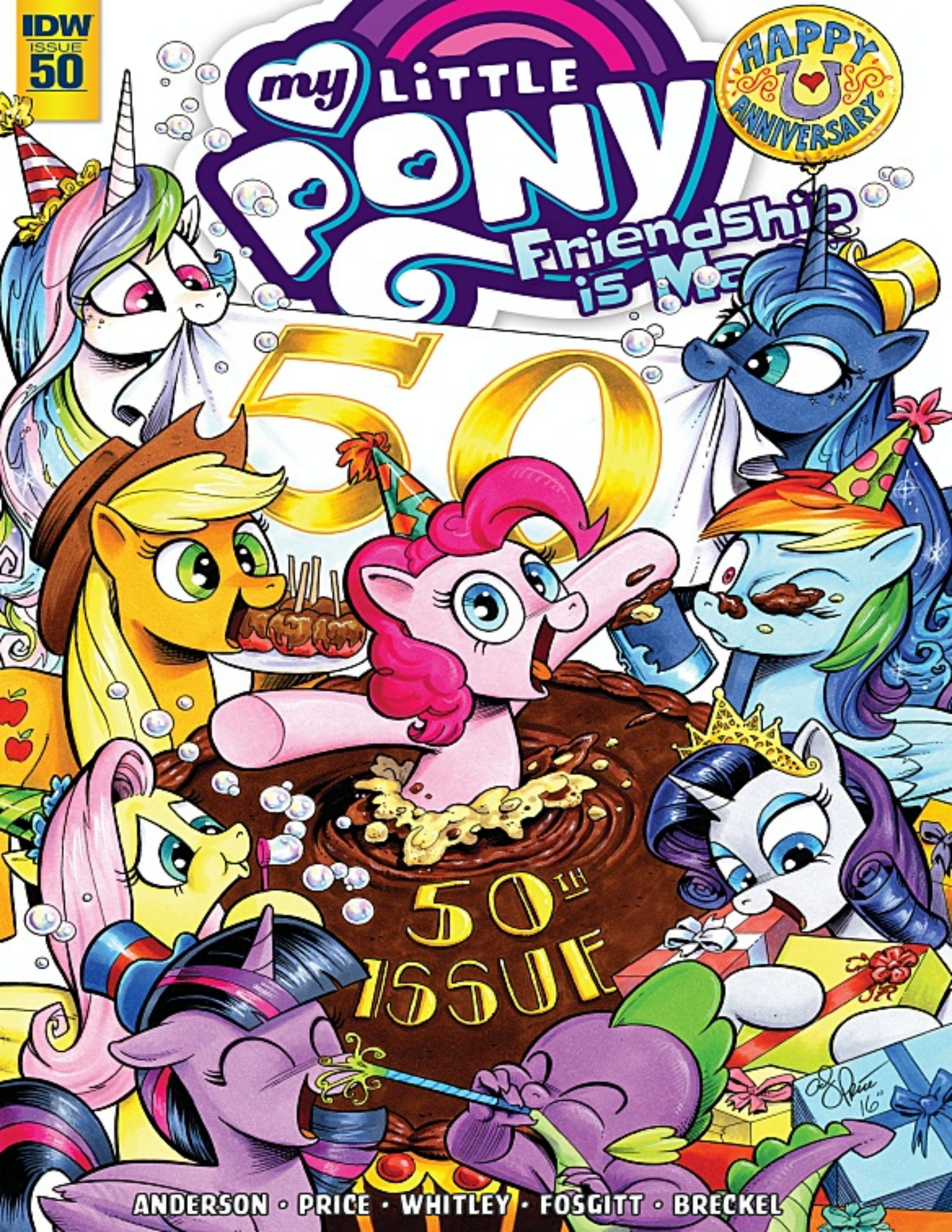


IDW
ISSUE
50

my LITTLE

PONY

Friendship
is Magic



50TH
ISSUE

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WHEN WE LAST SAW OUR HEROES, THEY WERE FACING A TERRIFYING SIGHT:

PRINCESSES TWILIGHT AND LUNA, HYPNOTIZED BY THE DRASTICALLY DIFFERENT DRACONEGIUS ACCORD!

ACCORD
CONCLUSION: AND CHAOS INTO THE ORDER CAME







DON'T WORRY, FOLKS! WE'LL BE IN PONYVILLE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

OR JUMPING-

PRINCESS CELESTIA, I...

I'M SORRY I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT YOU'RE FEELING RIGHT NOW...

THANK YOU, STARLIGHT GLIMMER.

IT IS... DIFFICULT, TO SEE MY CITY AND MY KINGDOM CONQUERED...

MY SISTER AND MY PUPIL, UNDER ACCORD'S CONTROL.

AND WHAT WORRIES ME THE MOST IS—

—PERHAPS ACCORD HAS A POINT.

EMERGENCY EXIT +

WHAT?!

YOU CAN'T
MEAN THAT,
PRINCESS!

THE IDEA IS
HORRIFYING
TO ME AS
WELL.

BUT MY SISTER AND
I HAVE ALWAYS TRIED
TO BRING ORDER TO
EQUESTRIA.

WE HOPED
TO DO IT THROUGH
FRIENDSHIP AND
KINDNESS, BUT...

...IF
ACCORD HAS BEEN
SO SUCCESSFUL—
MAYBE HIS WAY
IS BETTER.

DON'T SAY
THAT!

ACCORD'S
WAY ISN'T ORDER—
IT'S TYRANNY!

DOMINATION!


MANIPULATION!

HE'S NOT
LIKE
YOU—

HE'S
MORE LIKE—
LIKE—

—WELL,
LIKE AN EVIL
YOU!

YOU MAY BE
MORE RIGHT THAN
YOU REALIZE...




I'VE SEEN A
WORLD WHERE I
AM A TYRANT.

AN INVERTED
WORLD, WHERE GOOD
IS EVIL, AND FRIENDSHIP
IS HATRED.

ACCORD
DOES REMIND ME
OF THAT VERSION
OF MYSELF...

THE
MIRROR-WORLD—
TWILIGHT TOLD ME
ABOUT YOUR
ADVENTURES
THERE.



THAT OTHER
"YOU" TRIED TO
CREATE ORDER,
TOO—

—BUT SHE DID
IT TO CONTROL
PONIES.

YOU WANT TO
HELP PONIES.



ORDER IS
A GOAL.


YOU CAN WORK
FOR IT THROUGH
GOOD OR EVIL
MEANS.



AND
BELIEVE
ME—


—I KNOW THE
DIFFERENCE
BETTER THAN
ANYPONY!





I ONCE TRIED
TO BRING
ORDER TO MY
VILLAGE—

—BUT, WELL, I
WASN'T DOING IT
FOR THE RIGHT
REASONS.



I STILL WANT
TO BRING PONIES
TOGETHER—

—NOT IN
SAMENESS.

—BUT NOW,
IN HARMONY AND
FRIENDSHIP—



YOU KNOW,
WE'VE SEEN **EVIL**
OPPOSITES IN
PONYVILLE,
TOO.

A POOL OF **MAGIC**
WATER APPEARED NEAR
PONYVILLE, JUST A LITTLE
WHILE AGO—

IT TURNED
EVERYPONY INTO THEIR
EVIL VERSIONS!

BUT EVEN WHEN
THEY WERE **EVIL**,
THEY STILL HAD THE
SAME GOALS:

FLUTTERSHY
WANTED TO PROTECT
ANIMALS, PINKIE
WANTED EVERYPONY
TO LAUGH...

OH, YES—
LUNA MENTIONED THE
RECENT "DARK WATER"
INCIDENT.







OH, NO!

WE'RE GONNA TRY AND USE THE ELEMENTS OF HARMONY TO DEFEAT HIM—

—SO EVERYPONY NEEDS TO GET INSIDE AND SAFE!

UNDERSTOOD!

GOOD LUCK, EVERYPONY!

I'LL TELEPORT TO THE TREE OF HARMONY AND GET THE ELEMENTS, THEN MEET YOU AT THE LIBRARY.

RIGHT!



TWILIGHT? WHAT—

WAIT, WHERE'S TWILIGHT?



I HAVE THE ELEMENTS!

WAUGH!

THE ELEMENTS OF HARMONY.

I STILL REMEMBER WHEN MY SISTER AND I FIRST FOUND THEM...

I HOPE THE ELEMENT OF MAGIC WILL STILL RESPOND TO ME, AFTER BEING IN TWILIGHT'S CARE FOR SO LONG.

I WOULDN'T WORRY IF I WERE YOU, PRINCESS.

ACCORD!?

INDEED.

IT TOOK ME
SOME TIME TO
WORK OUT THE MAGIC
OF TELEPORTING
LIKE DISCORD
DID—

—BUT ONCE
I DID, I DECIDED
TO DROP IN ON MY
FAVORITE LITTLE
VILLAGE!

YOU'RE NOT
GETTIN' AWAY WITH
THIS, ACCORD!

GET AWAY
WITH WHAT?

UNITING ALL OF
EQUESTRIA?

MAKING
THIS KINGDOM
AS ORDERLY AS
IT CAN BE?

I'M AFRAID
I ALREADY
HAVE.

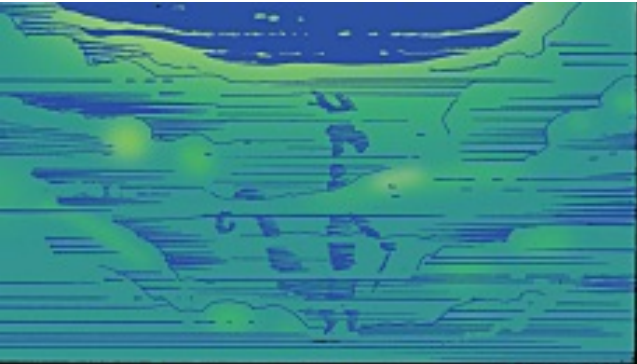
THE ONLY POSSIBLE
STUMBLING BLOCK IS
THE ELEMENTS OF
HARMONY—

—AND I DOUBT
THEY WILL BE SO
EFFECTIVE WITHOUT
THE PRINCESS OF
FRIENDSHIP.

IF YOU
WISH TO TRY
THEM—

—I INVITE
THE ATTEMPT.







IF I AM
THE ONLY PONY
IN EQUESTRIA WHO
DOESN'T FOLLOW
YOU—

—THEN
PLAY FAIR!



"FAIR?"
YOU SAY?

Y-YES!

INSTEAD OF
JUST **SNAPPING**
YOUR CLAWS AND
TURNING ME TO
YOUR SIDE—

—CONVINCE
ME!



TELL ME
WHY I SHOULD
FOLLOW YOU.

AND
IF YOU'RE
RIGHT...

...I'LL
JOIN YOU BY
CHOICE.

HA!

WHAT AN
INTERESTING
CHALLENGE!

I ACCEPT!



I'LL WIN,
OF COURSE.
I'VE ALREADY
WON.

I'VE ALREADY
WON OVER ALL
YOUR FRIENDS.

AND THEY
ARE NOW MY
FRIENDS.

ARE
THEY?



WHY, OF COURSE!

JUST LOOK AT EVERYPONY THAT HAS JOINED ME!

THEY THINK LIKE ME, THEY ACT LIKE ME.

JOIN ME!



FRIENDSHIP IS ORDER.

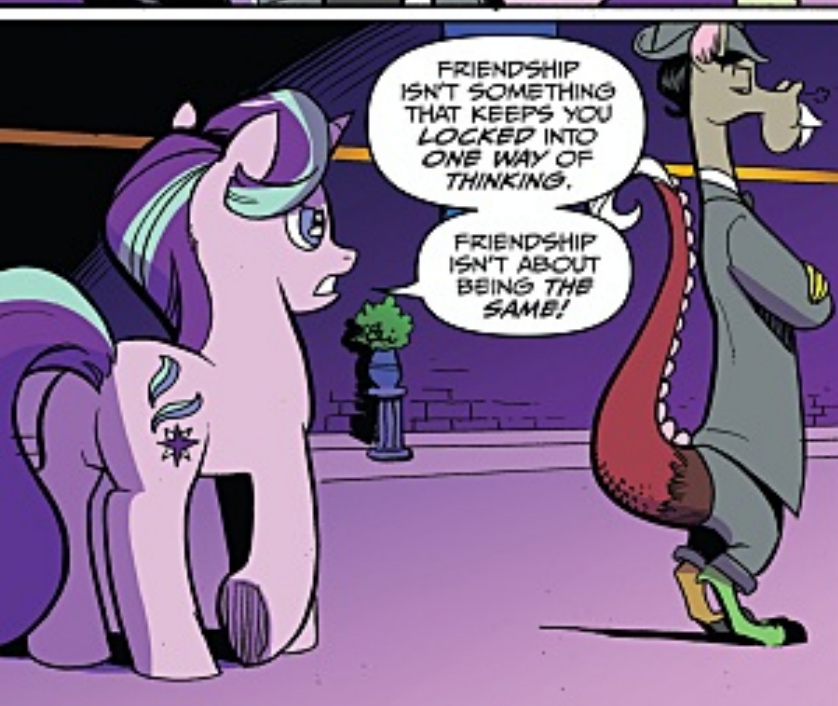
AND ORDER IS FRIENDSHIP.

I DON'T THINK SO.



MY OLD VILLAGE WAS BASED ON ORDER.

BUT WE WEREN'T FRIENDS.



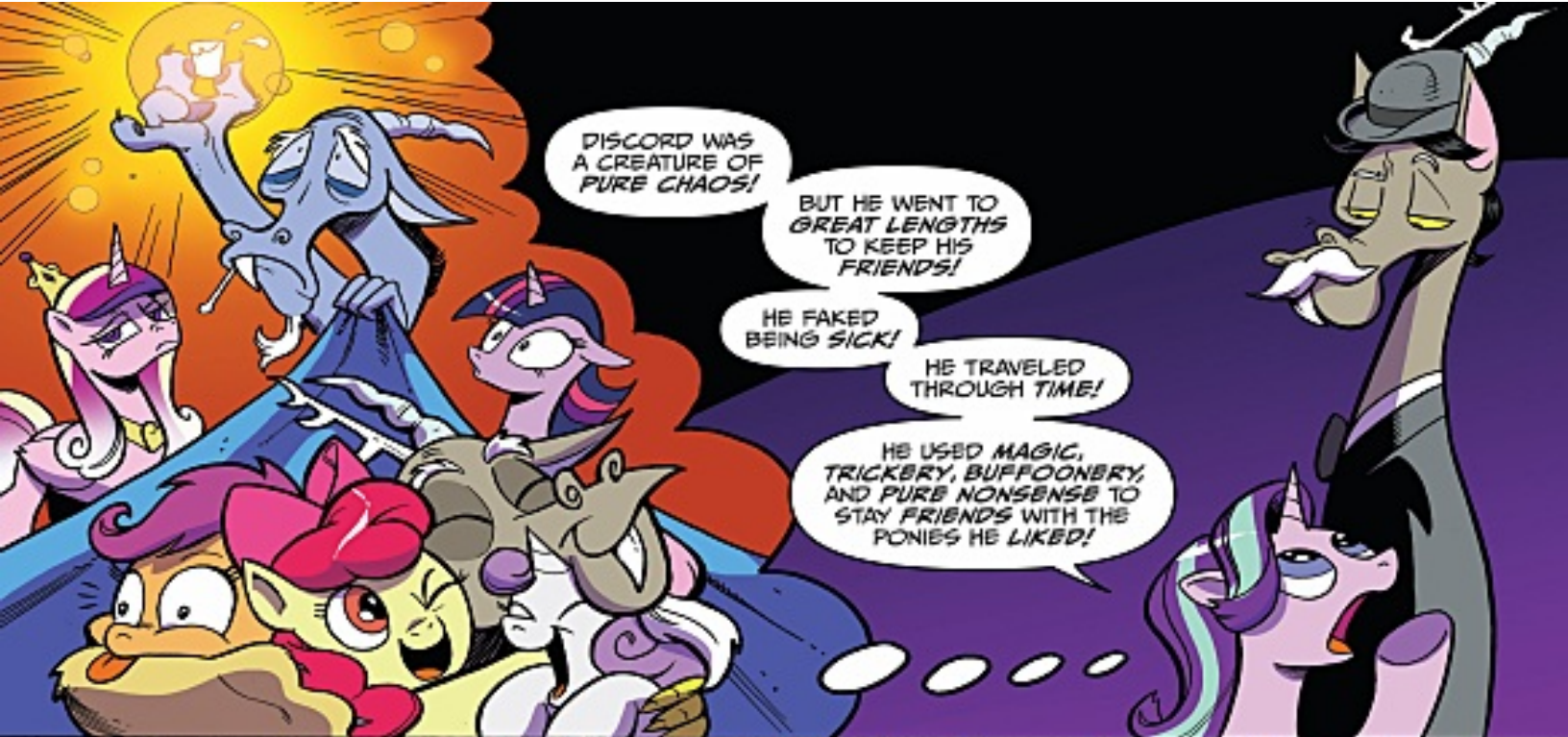
FRIENDSHIP ISN'T SOMETHING THAT KEEPS YOU LOCKED INTO ONE WAY OF THINKING.

FRIENDSHIP ISN'T ABOUT BEING THE SAME!



AFTER ALL, DISCORD WASN'T THE SAME AS ANYPONY—

—AND EVEN HE WANTED FRIENDS!



DISCORD WAS
A CREATURE OF
PURE CHAOS!

BUT HE WENT TO
GREAT LENGTHS
TO KEEP HIS
FRIENDS!

HE FAKED
BEING SICK!

HE TRAVELED
THROUGH TIME!

HE USED MAGIC,
TRICKBRY, BUFFOONRY,
AND PURE NONSENSE TO
STAY FRIENDS WITH THE
PONIES HE LIKED!



ALL RIGHT,
FINE.

SO EVEN THE
TRICKSTER WANTED
FRIENDS.

WHAT'S YOUR
POINT?

MY POINT IS
THAT FRIENDSHIP
DOESN'T REQUIRE
ORDER—

—IT REQUIRES
DISORDER!



YOU CAN'T
BE FRIENDS WITH
SOME PONY WHO'S
EXACTLY LIKE
YOU—

IT'D BE
LIKE BEING
FRIENDS WITH
A MIRROR!



FRIENDSHIP MEANS
SEEING THE
DIFFERENCES IN
SOME PONY—

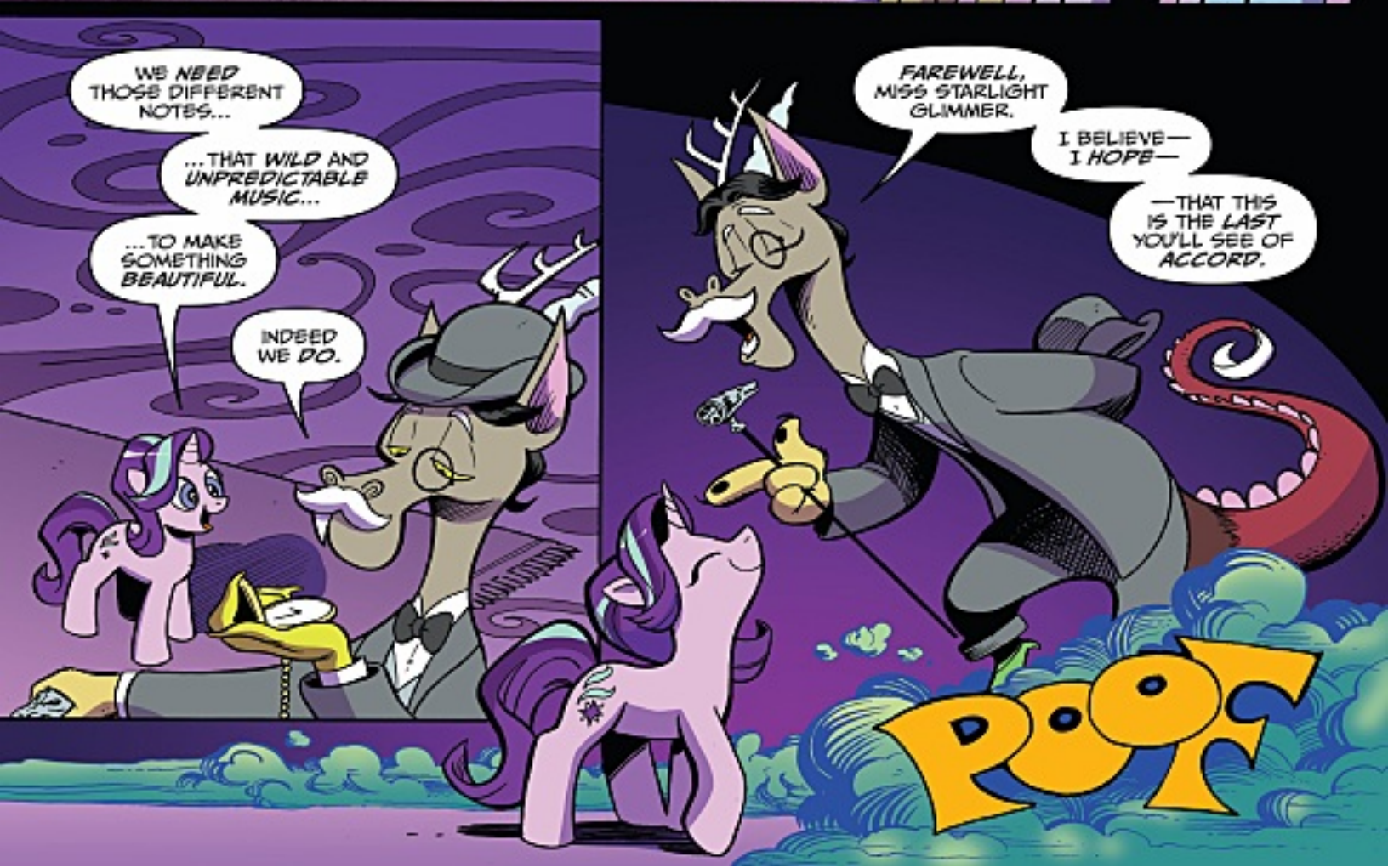
—AND
MAKING A
CONNECTION
ANYWAY!



DISCORD
WANTED FRIENDS
ABOVE ALL—AND
SO DO YOU!

BUT THESE PONIES
AREN'T YOUR FRIENDS!
THEY'RE YOUR
PUPPETS!

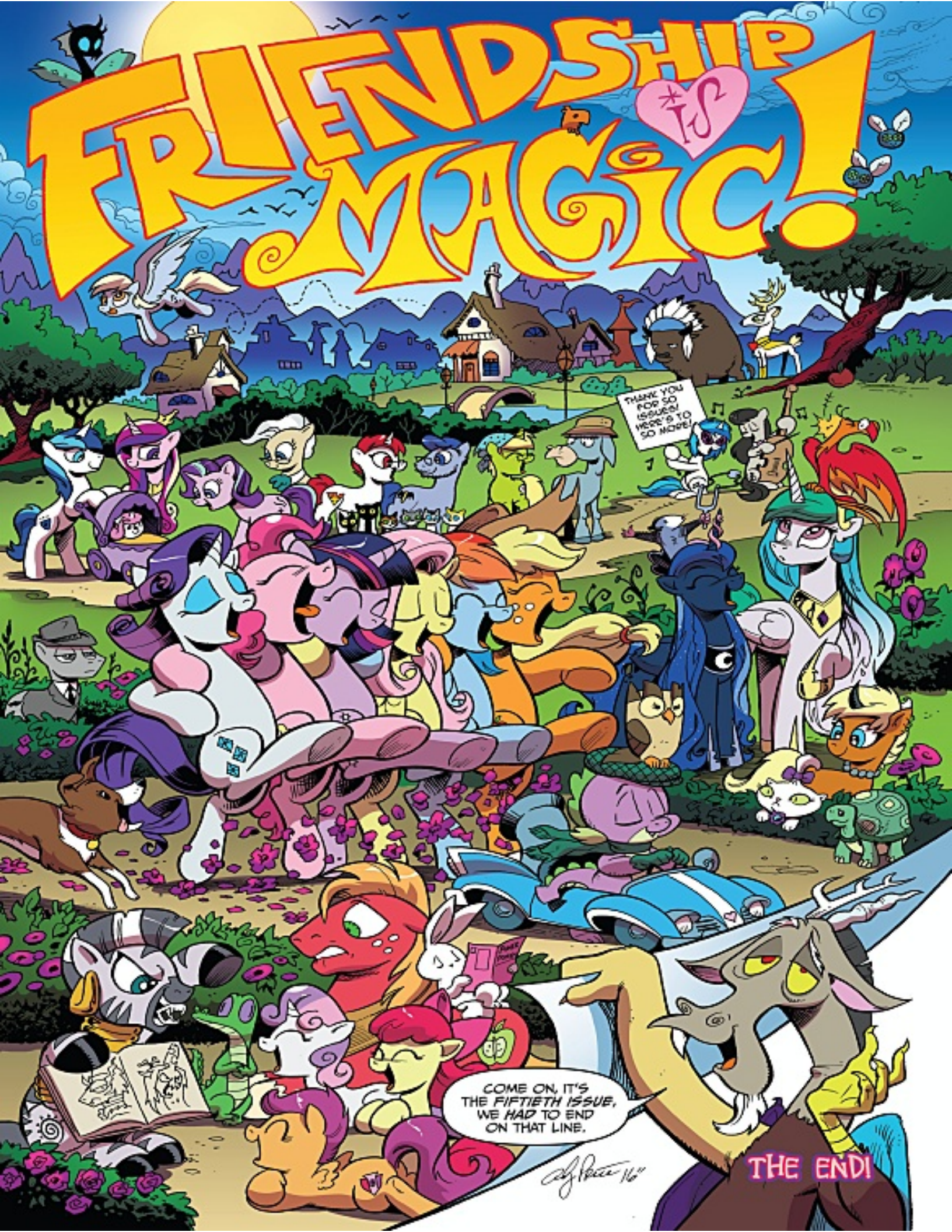








FRIENDSHIP MAGIC!

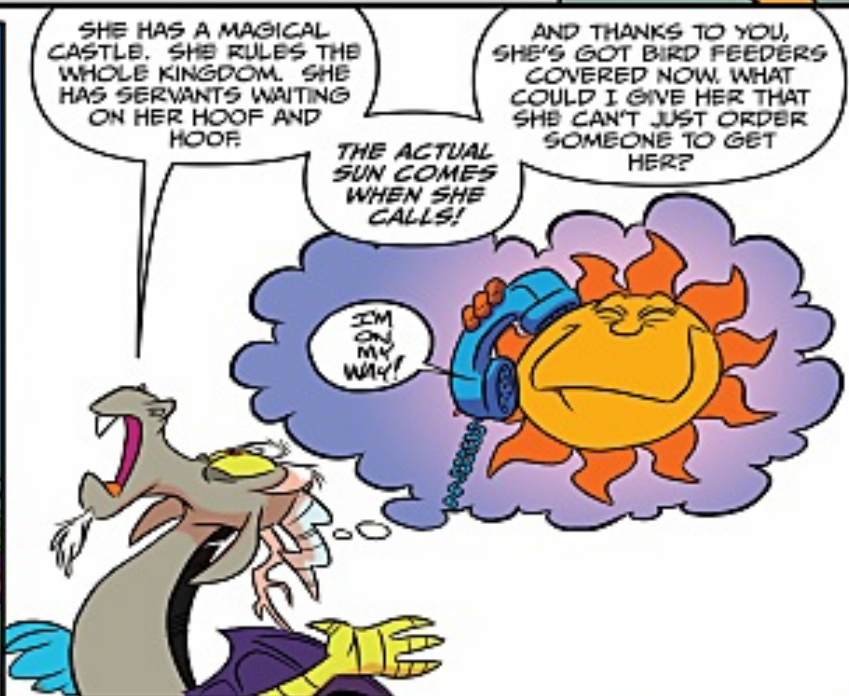
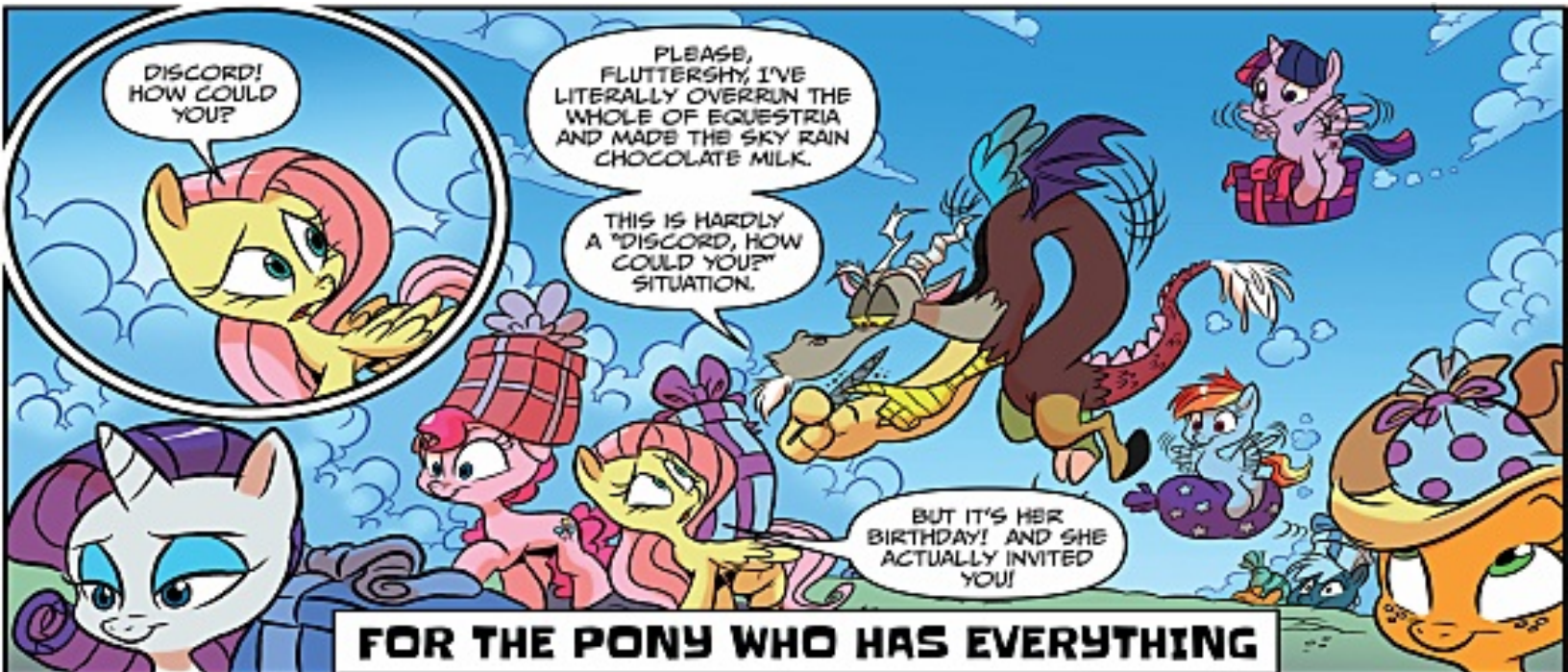


THANK YOU
FOR SO
MANY ISSUES!
HERE'S 9 TO
GO MORE!

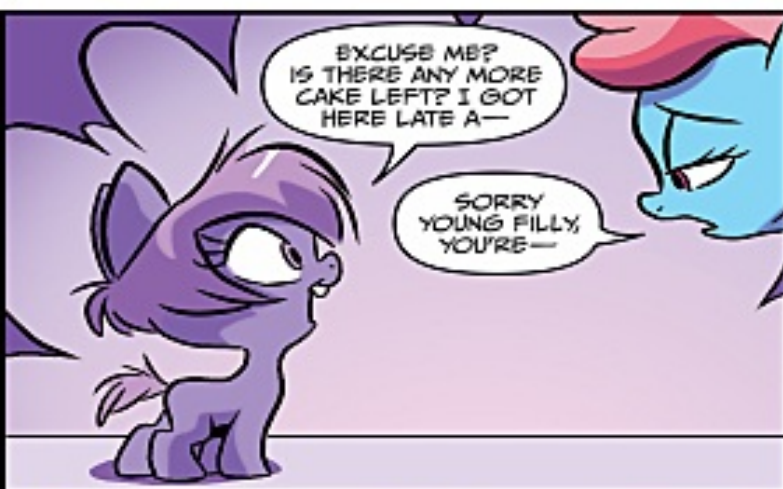
COME ON, IT'S
THE FIFTIETH ISSUE,
WE HAD TO END
ON THAT LINE.

J. P. 16''

THE END!











OH MY.
WHAT AN ODD
DREAM.

WHAT TIME
IS IT? I HAVE TO
RAISE THE—



THE SUN!
THE SUN IS UP!
HOW DID IT RAISE
WITHOUT ME?

THAT WOULD
BE ME. HONESTLY,
LIKE IT'S HARD?



DISCORD! I
HAVE GIVEN YOU EVERY
OPPORTUNITY TO REFORM!
I'VE GIVEN YOU CHANCE
AFTER CHANCE—

YES YES, BUT
BEFORE YOU TRY TO
VANQUISH ME, YOU MIGHT
WANT TO LOOK IN
THE MIRROR.

THE
MIRROR?



MY... WHO?
DISCORD, WHAT
HAVE YOU DONE?

I FOUND THE
PERFECT GIFT FOR
YOU. DON'T YOU
LIKE IT?

A GIFT?

A DAY
OFF.



I MADE IT MYSELF. IT
CHANGES YOUR APPEARANCE,
BUT NOT ONLY THAT, IT TAKES
ALL OF YOUR MAGIC.

YOU STOLE
MY MAGIC?
AGAIN?!

HARDLY. IT'S
STORED IN THE BOX
FOR THE NEXT TWENTY
FOUR HOURS. AT THE
STROKE OF MIDNIGHT
TONIGHT, YOU'LL GET
IT ALL BACK.



REVERSE IT!
I DON'T WANT
THIS!

ON THE CONTRARY, IT
HAD A FAILSAFE BUILT IN.
THE SPELL ONLY WORKS
IF YOU WANT IT.

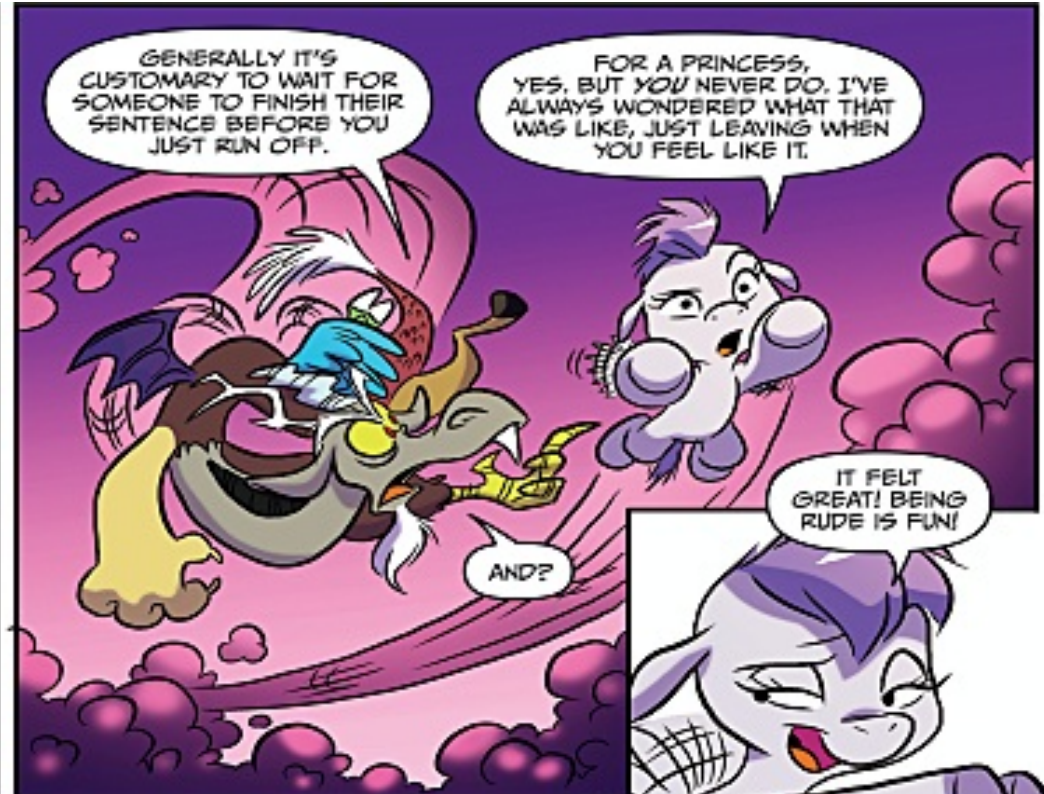
BUT WHO WILL
TAKE CARE OF THE
KINGDOM? WHO
WILL PROTECT
EVERYONE?

WELL, LUNA THINKS
YOU'VE BEEN CALLED AWAY ON
URGENT BUSINESS AND IS TAKING
CARE OF YOUR CHORES. TWILIGHT
IS HANDLING DIPLOMACY. CADANCE
THINKS YOU ASKED HER TO HELP
LUNA. AND YOU ARE
FREE TO—



—ENJOY A DAY OFF!

HEY!



GENERALLY IT'S CUSTOMARY TO WAIT FOR SOMEONE TO FINISH THEIR SENTENCE BEFORE YOU JUST RUN OFF.

FOR A PRINCESS, YES, BUT YOU NEVER DO. I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED WHAT THAT WAS LIKE, JUST LEAVING WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE IT.

AND?

IT FELT GREAT! BEING RUDE IS FUN!



YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME. IT'S A FAVORITE.

WHERE ARE WE GOING, BY THE WAY?

PONYVILLE!



PONYVI—LISTEN, I DON'T THINK YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU HAVE HERE. YOU HAVE A FREE PASS TO GO ANYWHERE AND DO ANYTHING FOR ONE DAY!

AND I'VE BEEN READING LETTERS ABOUT PONYVILLE FOR YEARS NOW, BUT EVERY TIME I GO THERE EVERYPONY'S ON THEIR BEST BEHAVIOR AND THEY HAVE A PARADE AND I'M LED FROM ONE CEREMONY TO THE NEXT AND—

AND YOU WANT TO SEE WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE SOMEONY WHO ISN'T CELESTIA IN PONYVILLE?

EXACTLY! I WANT TO REALLY EXPERIENCE THIS WONDERFUL TOWN AND THESE WONDERFUL PONIES TWILIGHT SPEAKS SO HIGHLY OF.



WELL THEN—

SNAP!

—LET'S PAINT THE TOWN RED, SHALL WE?



LATER...

HELLO?

KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK

THAT'S
STRANGE, OTIS
NEVER LIKES
STRANGERS.

OH MY! MY
BACK HAS NEEDED
TO POP FOR
CENTURIES!

AND THEN...

LISTEN, YOU SEEM
LIKE A NICE KID, BUT NOT
EVERYPONY CAN FLY LIKE
A WONDERBOLT.

IF ANYONE CAN TEACH
ME, IT'S THE LEGENDARY
RAINBOW DASH!

THIRTY SECONDS LATER...

WERE
YOU TRYING TO
BREAK ALL HER
BONES?

I WAS JUST
SHOWING OFF
MY CORKSCREW.
I DIDN'T EXPECT
HER TO TRY
IT.

WHAT DO
YOU KNOW?
THAT WAS
"AWESOME"! OH,
COULD YOU
JUST PUSH
ME IN?

YOU KNOW, DARLING,
I'VE ALWAYS SAID THAT
CUSTOMERS ARE WELCOME TO
DROP IN, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE
ANYONE HAS EVER TAKEN
ME SO LITERALLY.

OH, RARITY,
DO YOU THINK YOU
COULD MAKE ME
A DRESS?

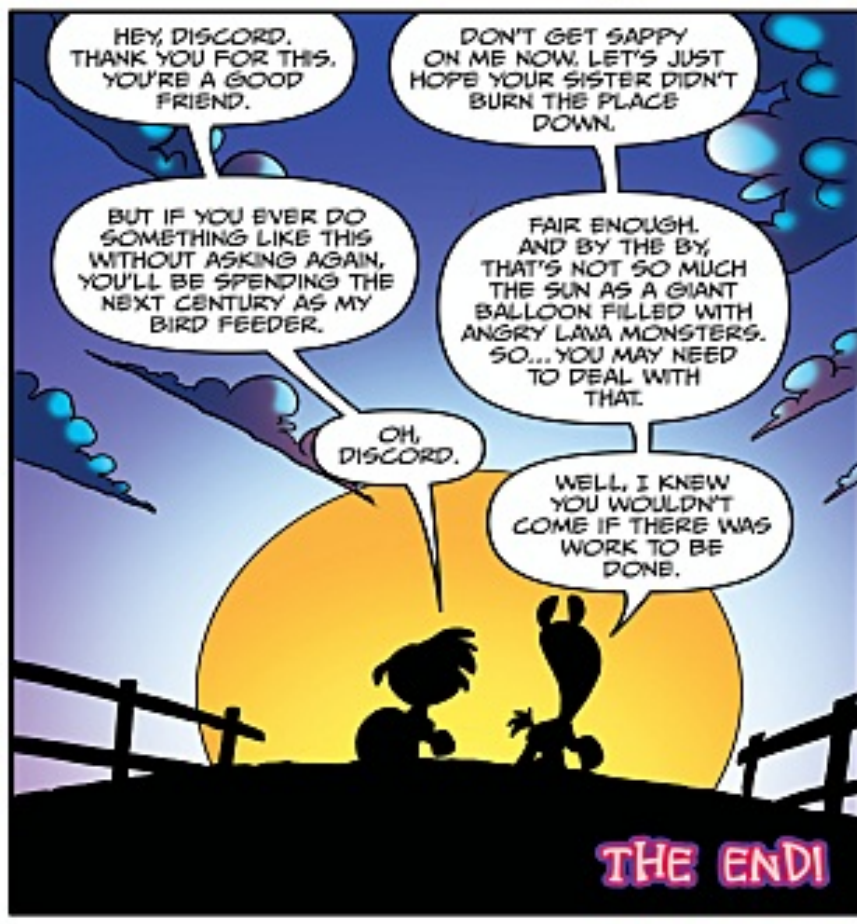
ANY DRESS IN
PARTICULAR?

SOMETHING
NO ONE
WOULD EXPECT
ME TO WEAR.
WHAT ABOUT
BLACK?!

OH THIS LOOKS MOST
EXCELLENT! IF I ORDERED ONE
FOR DELIVERY IN A LARGER SIZE,
DO YOU THINK YOU COULD
SEND IT TO ME?

WITHOUT A
DOUBT? FOR
A FRIEND?

SOMETHING LIKE
THAT. SHE'S PRETTY
WORK OBSESSED AND
NEVER GETS TIME
TO HAVE FUN.



We're kicking off 2017 with two books that I can't wait to read — *Flight of the Raven* from our EuroComics line and *You Might Be An Artist If...* from Top Shelf. I asked my colleagues Dean Mullaney and Chris Staros to tell you more about them.



After 40 years as an editor, I sometimes think that I've seen it all. And then last year I discovered the sheer awesome beauty of Jean-Pierre Gibrat's artwork in the French graphic novel *Flight of the Raven*. Gibrat's lush watercolors made my jaw drop and it clearly illustrates why we started our EuroComics imprint in the first place — so that those of us who love comics can enjoy English translations of the best comics from around the world. Just imagine if we lived in a country or spoke a language where there were no comics, for example, by Neil Gaiman, Fiona Staples, Brian K. Vaughan, Will Eisner, Jack Kirby, or Mike Mignola.



That's the position we are in regarding comics created in other languages. We're missing out on a lot of great comics by writers and artists who are superstars overseas. *Blacksad* artist Juanjo Guarnido said, "Gibrat has a unique vision of comics, one in which color — especially watercolor — stands as a storytelling pillar." Gibrat is also a fantastic writer, creating fully-rounded characters and — surprisingly for a story set in wartime — a gentle, bittersweet tale of love and betrayal. I'm proud to have the English translation of this book on my bookcase and I think you will be too.

— Dean Mullaney, Editor-in-Chief, EuroComics

Every artist I know — who takes their craft seriously — is their own worst critic. And as an editor, you often find yourself providing constructive criticism and moral support in equal measure, trying to push the creative envelope and keep someone from falling apart at the very same time.

Staros
MY SELF ESTEEM HIDERS ON
YOUR LINES AND SHANES.

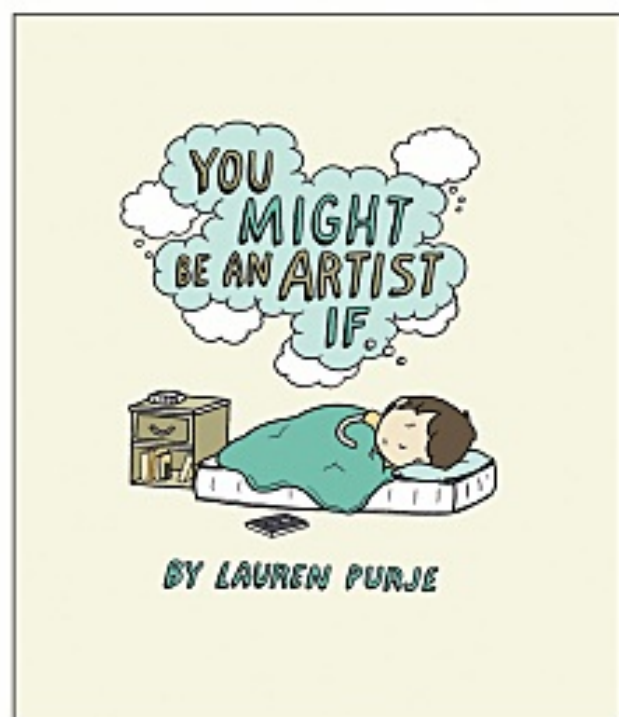
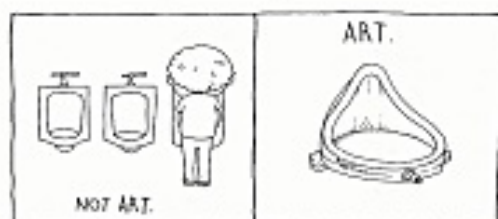


In *You Might Be An Artist If...*, Lauren Purje perfectly captures all the mood swings of the artistic life: the writer's block, the insecurity, the triumph, and the depression; the yin and yang of that feeling that you've simultaneously made the best and worst career decision of your life (and that if you don't make it, your mom or dad is going to say "I told you so").

And while procrastination may be the highest art form of all, the next time you find yourself in a rut,

pick up this book, read a few strips, and remember that you're not alone. I bet the laughter will get you back to the drawing board in no time at all.

— Chris Staros, Editor-in-Chief, Top Shelf Productions



Thanks, guys! I'll be back next month to tell you about *Animal Noir*, a creator-owned book that I found last year at a comics festival in Barcelona.